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Adams County historian Wayne Motts appointed to state post

By Tim Pratt, Hanover Evening Sun, September 6, 2006

Wayne Motts feels right at home surrounded by decades-old books and artifacts in his office at the Adams County Historical Society.

The 39-year-old history buff has enjoyed teaching others about the past for as long as he can remember, specializing in the Civil War.

He even has a framed newspaper clipping from when he lectured a class at Ohio State University on the Battle of Gettysburg when he was 14.

A Masters in American history diploma from Shippensburg University also hangs among his certificates and awards.

They are just some of the mementos Motts has picked up on his way to becoming executive director of the Adams County Historical Society, a title he has held for two years.

And the Franklin Township resident was recently appointed vice chairman of the Association of Pennsylvania Historical Societies, a network of the commonwealth's 67 county historical societies.

The society was created in 1996 to help historical societies work together to address common issues, such as preservation techniques, fundraising and marketing. The society remained informal until earlier this year when members decided to appoint officers to re-energize the organization.

"It's a great honor," Motts said. "We have 67 county historical societies in the state, and to be vice chairman of this group of people that really are dedicating a lifetime to preserving the history of these counties is great."

The Ohio native will now help organize and plan association

meetings and workshops throughout the commonwealth.

The association will also work to get maximum participation so county historical societies can work together to offer each other advice on problems and issues they have in common.

"This gives me an opportunity to talk with people that have the same interests and responsibilities I have, just in a different part of the state," he said.

Despite his new responsibilities, Motts will continue working more than 40 hours a week at the Adams County Historical Society. His duties there include giving tours of the museum, managing staff, working on fundraising and dealing with the society's 20,000-piece collection that dates back to Adams County's formation in 1800.



Historian Wayne Motts
(Photo courtesy 20th Maine.com)

Motts also assists people who come to the society looking to do genealogical, property and other historical research.

Motts said county historical societies not only benefit people looking into

the past, but help those looking into the future as well.

Motts said the Adams County Historical Society has even provided information that has been used in projects such as the construction on The Majestic Theater, Wills House and Lincoln train station.

"A lot of the projects that have great public benefit, they wouldn't be able to be done without the research that we hold here," he said. "We're keeping the history and holding this material for future generations to understand the growth and development and changes in Adams County as it goes on."

Archaeologists unearth old U.S. Armory site at Harpers Ferry

By Dave McMillion, Hagerstown Herald-Mail

HARPERS FERRY, W.Va. - For more than 100 years, its remains laid under dirt and there have been no known pictures of the inside or descriptions of it, archaeologists say.

Yet the U.S. Armory and Arsenal in Harpers Ferry was one of the focal parts of the town during the early- and mid-1800s and more than 400 people were employed there making muskets, rifles and pistols.

Now the remains of the massive facility - most of which was leveled during the Civil War of shortly thereafter - are slowly and meticulously becoming visible again.

Since last year, a team of park archaeologists have been unearthing sections of the armory and on Wednesday, they invited local media members to the site to view the progress.

After digging down into the ground where the complex's smith and forging shop stood, archaeologists discovered the floor of the factory, its



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stone foundation and the spot where the building's 90-foot smoke stack stood.

The floor was made up partly of red brick laid in a herringbone style, which archaeologists believe was where employees labored at work stations to operate the plant's machinery.

Other sections of the floor visible Wednesday were made up of flagstone, which archaeologists believe were places where heavy machinery sat.

Referring to features like mortar that was still visible between the bricks, Mia Parsons, supervisory archaeologist at the site, said she was impressed by the good condition of the remains.

"It's like stepping back in history as close as you can," said park spokeswoman Marsha Wassel, who also was at the site.

Archaeologists also found a wealth of artifacts at the site, which is between Potomac Street and the Potomac River.

At one time, a venting system was installed in the floor of the factory for its forge, park officials said. But it did not work and was filled in, park officials said.

When archaeologists were digging through the fill material, they found Civil War-era items including toothbrushes with handles made of bone, buttons and metal parts off backpacks and hats, said Michelle Hammer, archaeological lab manager.

Photographs of the ruins will be used to make historical interpretive signs which will be erected at the site and trails are expected to be cut through the area so the public can walk through the area and learn about the armory, Wassel said.

Work on the interpretive program will probably start next year, although it is unclear when it might be finished, Wassel said.

On April 18, 1861, less than 24 hours after Virginia seceded from the Union, federal soldiers set fire to the armory to keep it out of Confederate hands during the Civil War. People in town, upset that their source of livelihood was going up in smoke, extinguished the fire and saved part of the complex, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park officials have said.

During the war, remains of the armory were used for different purposes, including a warehouse in the complex which was used as a quartermaster depot for union troops.

Remaining buildings were leveled after the war and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, which at one time owned the armory site, filled in much of the ground with dirt as part of a track alignment.

Civil War photos on exhibit

By Scott Weybright, Owings Mills Times, September 14, 2006

Ross Kelbaugh of Pikesville may be a retired history teacher, but he's not tired of studying history.

Kelbaugh, 57, retired in 2001 after 30 years of teaching Catonsville Junior High and at Catonsville high schools. But Kelbaugh has remained active by pursuing a passion he's had since the fifth grade: the Civil War.

Some of the photographs that he owns from that conflict are part of an exhibition now on display in the Maryland Historical Society library.

Kelbaugh is also the guest curator of the exhibit, titled "The Civil War in Maryland: Rare photographs from the collections of the Maryland Historical Society and its members."

About 80 percent of the 300 original Civil War photographs in the exhibit

came from the private collections of five enthusiasts. The rest are from the society itself, according to Kelbaugh.

About 100 of the photos are from his collection. His entire collection of photography, not limited to the Civil War and including originals and copies, is around 10,000 photos.

He wanted to tell the complete story of the Civil War in Maryland, he said.

"We're using all the images that fit," he said of the display, which shows photos of dead soldiers on the battlefield, portraits of officers and scenes from behind the lines.

A highlight for Kelbaugh is a selection of stereoscopic photos that, when seen through a special viewer, produce a three-dimensional image that appears much more life-like.

"Basically, this was 19th-century television," he said.

These pictures, two versions of the same image arranged side by side, can be seen at the library as they were designed to be viewed because the exhibit has the proper apparatus.

Kelbaugh said he worked with four other collectors to compile the program.

Dave Mark, North Carolina resident Arthur Barrett, Ferndale resident Daniel Toomey and Frederick Shroyer, who lives in St. Mary's County, share Kelbaugh's passion for photographs from that 1861-65 era.

Mark, of Linthicum Heights, said he has been a Civil War collector for years. He has 31 photographs in the exhibit.

He said he concentrates on Confederate photos.

"Confederate photography is pretty rare," Mark said. His overall collection is around 140 photos, he said.

Kelbaugh said the exhibit shows how divided Maryland was during the Civil War.



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"There were soldiers from Maryland on both sides fighting for what they believed in," he said. "It divided families."

Kelbaugh spent years adding to his collection of Civil War photos.

Since retiring, Kelbaugh has started his own vintage image service and written a few books, the latest, "Introduction to African American Photographs: 1840-1950," which came out last year.

And now he enjoys seeing his planning and hard work at the exhibit. "It's a thrill to see what I imagined come alive," Kelbaugh said.

Second hatch on Hunley removed

By BRUCE SMITH, AP, September 13, 2006

CHARLESTON, S.C. - Scientists on Tuesday removed the rear hatch on the Confederate submarine H.L. Hunley, although the work won't immediately remove the questions surrounding the sinking of the sub in 1864.

The 40-foot, hand-cranked sub, the first in history to sink an enemy warship, sank off Charleston after sending the Union blockade ship Housatonic to the bottom on Feb. 17, 1864.

The eight Hunley crew members went down with the sub.

The Hunley has two towers with hatches but the rear hatch apparently was locked. After it was removed from the sub, which is in a conservation tank at a lab in North Charleston, the hatch was taken to the lab for X-rays.

The way the sub was configured, most of the crew would have had to have opened that hatch and escaped through the back tower.

The fact it was locked indicates the crew didn't sense an emergency in the last minutes of the sub, said state

Sen. Glenn McConnell, R-Charleston and chairman of the South Carolina Hunley Commission.

"It ends any speculation that there was panic on board," he said.

Earlier this summer, scientists found that the forward hatch, where Capt. George Dixon would have been piloting the craft, was unlocked.

It's unclear whether that might have been an attempt to escape or simply bring more air into the submarine. Scientists have also speculated it may have simply been damaged while the submarine sat on the ocean floor for 136 years.

"I don't think there was any attempt to escape the submarine that night," McConnell said. "Any attempt to get out of the submarine would have been to the back."

The remains of the crewmen, he said, were all found at their duty stations.

Removing the rear hatch will allow scientists a chance to study a section of the sub that they have not been able to get to since it was raised more than six years ago.

The rear hatch also contains a glass view port which must be removed before scientists can conserve the Hunley.

With the rear hatch locked "the story turns back to the front tower and why was it unlocked," McConnell said.

"Did it get damaged or did he (Dixon) have it unlocked for a purpose?"

McConnell said the explanation may turn again to whether the crew suffocated, perhaps miscalculating the amount of oxygen they had.

One important clue will be an X-ray of the valves of the pumping system which are now encrusted with sediment.

The position of the valves should indicate whether the pump was set to take water in or out of the ballast tanks or, in the event the Hunley had

taken on water, to pump it out of the crew compartment, McConnell said.

Work on Hunley to go on for years

U.S. Navy decides Confederate submarine must undergo lengthy preservation process

By John Monk, The Palmetto State.com, September 26, 2006

The U.S. Navy has ruled the Hunley submarine must be preserved by a traditional soaking process, something that could increase both the time and the cost involved to preserve the sub.

It might take "five to seven" years to get the H.L. Hunley museum-ready, said Robert Neyland, head of the U.S. Navy's Naval Historical Center's Underwater Archaeology Branch, on Monday.

The S.C. Hunley Commission and Clemson University, which is planning to take over the sub's preservation, had hoped the work would be complete by 2009.

Preservation was expected to cost about \$800,000 a year for three years, according to Clemson's estimates. It isn't known how the cost would be affected annually, but the additional time is almost sure to drive up the total money required.

Raegan Quinn, spokeswoman for Friends of the Hunley, the Hunley Commission's foundation, said Monday it's "too early to make budget reduction projections this far out with so many contributing factors."

In making its decision, which was reviewed by more than a half-dozen international experts, the Navy said an alternate — and quicker — process developed by Clemson is too experimental for the Hunley, raised from the ocean floor in 2000.

The Navy's preferred process involves soaking the corroded, 10-ton Confederate sub in a solution such as



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sodium hydroxide or sodium bicarbonate. Those chemicals will slowly extract sea salts from the sub's hull.

Without preservation, the Hunley, which lies in a tank of cool water in a North Charleston laboratory, will turn to rust if exposed to air. Neyland said the chosen treatment is the most conservative and safest for the sub, the first to sink a ship in warfare.

Neyland spoke Monday after releasing a letter the Navy sent earlier this month to Hunley Commission chairman Sen. Glenn McConnell, R-Charleston. Efforts to reach McConnell for comment were unsuccessful.

In addition to an increase in the cost and time for preservation, the decision means:

- The Hunley Commission will have more time to plan and build a proposed \$42 million Hunley museum. The commission approved the plan for the museum in 2004 and selected North Charleston as its site. That city pledged in 2004 to give \$50,000 per year until the sub is in a new museum. Mayor Keith Summey could not be reached for comment Monday about whether a longer preservation process would cost the city more.

- A proposed provision in a tentative deal between Clemson and the Hunley Commission that requires Clemson to preserve the Hunley by Feb. 1, 2009, now appears difficult to attain.

Under that provision, the Hunley Commission would be allowed to repossess the Hunley lab if Clemson did not finish preserving the sub by 2009. By then, Clemson would have spent \$3 million in state bond money to upgrade the lab, meaning McConnell's commission would acquire a lab with \$3 million in

improvements in 2009. If it hit the deadline, under the deal, Clemson would keep the lab.

Last year, McConnell said a "new technique that has been developed at the (Hunley) laboratory in conjunction with Clemson University" would result in a speedy preservation.

"I envision us having the Hunley ready somewhere around 2008-2009," said McConnell at a Sept. 7, 2005, Hunley Commission meeting, according to the minutes of that meeting.

"The Hunley will be able to make her final trip upstream to a new facility many, many, many years ahead of what anybody had projected," McConnell said then.

But the Navy, which has the final say-so in Hunley preservation, made it clear in its letter to McConnell that the best method is the soaking method.

The Navy's letter, written by retired Admiral Paul Tobin, Naval History director, said Clemson's "innovative research into the sub-critical methodology is very promising, but this new process is not far enough along at this time to benefit conservation of Hunley. In addition, no equipment or facilities to accommodate the submarine in this new treatment exists. It may be that in the future, if more research and development continues into this process, this decision can be revisited."

Quinn praised the Navy's decision. "We recommended the approved conservation process, while outlining the sub-critical treatment as a potential alternative for the future once more research is completed," she said via e-mail.

"The letter is the first official documentation from the Navy stating they see great value and promise in the sub-critical methodology, and we

see it as an overwhelming endorsement of the research we are conducting," Quinn wrote.

Essentially, Clemson's method involved immersing the Hunley in a pressurized heated chemical solution — which theoretically would trigger the quick release of salts. While Clemson researchers have experimented on small iron objects, more research is needed before attempting something as large and complex as the Hunley, Neyland said scientists concluded.

Clemson officials did not return phone calls Monday.

Approval of a preservation plan has taken more than two years. In 2004, Hunley scientists submitted their plan to the Navy.

Since then, the Navy has circulated the document to leading underwater scientists, conservators, archaeologists, and other heritage experts from France, the United Kingdom, Australia and the United States, Neyland said.

One of those scientists, Betty Seifert, a conservator and acting director of the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory, said she was glad the Navy chose the time-tested soaking process.

"You don't want to use the Hunley as a test case," Seifert said. "The soaking process is safe. It will take a while, but you won't destroy the artifact."

No one can know how long the work will take, she said. "There's no easy answer. I've seen cannon balls that take two years."

Removing salt from iron is a tricky process that depends on things like the iron's makeup and "how trapped the salt is in the matrix of the metal," she said.

Hunley Commission member Rep. Chip Limehouse, R-Charleston, said,



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"What I want is what is best for the Hunley. Whether it takes five or more years to preserve the Hunley is not important. What is important is that it is done properly."

Commissioners Rep. Kenny Bingham, R-Lexington, and Sen. John Courson, R-Richland, agreed. "You only get one shot," said Bingham. But he said he also was glad the Navy spoke favorably of Clemson's experimental process. It may not be used on the Hunley, he said, but it could result in scientific advances in the future. "It's like NASA."

Unexpected USS Monitor artifacts turn up during cleanup excavations

By Mark St. John Erickson, Hampton Roads Daily Press, September 13, 2006

Four years after Navy divers pulled the USS Monitor gun turret from the ocean's grasp, the historic Civil War artifact has compiled a long record of surprising conservators with its secrets.

But few revelations have been more unexpected than the artifacts that turned up during seemingly routine excavations inside the new conservation facility at The Mariners' Museum this summer.

Probing through some of the last deposits that remain after the removal of tons of sediment, concretion and sand, conservators David Krop and Susanne Grieve knew their chances of coming across any overlooked finds were slim. Yet hidden under layers of accumulated grit that now measure as little as 2 inches thick was an assortment of unanticipated artifacts, including a trio of buttons, a mysterious iron crank and a piece of chalk that once stroked messages to the ill-fated vessel's sailors.

Perhaps the biggest surprise was a quartet of brass-jacketed bullets that seemed to come out of nowhere. Not only were they the first examples of ammunition found on the famous warship but they also emerged in an entirely unsuspected location. "I must have had my nose pressed against that exact spot on at least a dozen different occasions," says Jeff Johnston, the historian for Monitor National Marine Sanctuary, describing a familiar site on the turret's interior wall.

"But it just shows you why we don't want to go in there and start chipping away until we hit bottom. You never know what's in there under the surface - or what you're going to expose when you remove the next layer."

Recovered from the ocean floor off Cape Hatteras, N.C., in August 2004, the famous iron cylinder has required a lengthy and often complex series of conservation steps as the Newport News museum and sanctuary office - which is part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - have labored to preserve it. Immersed in the Atlantic for more than 140 years, its chloride-contaminated iron plates will spall and rupture disastrously if allowed to dry out. That means constant interruptions from a system of overhead water sprinklers whenever the conservators drain the turret's immense, 95,000-gallon tank in order to carry out their work.

Despite such obstacles, the museum and the sanctuary - with the help of engineers and riggers from Northrop Grumman Newport News shipyard - have successfully removed the heavy but fragile iron beams that braced the bottom of the turret and supported its pair of 9-ton Dahlgren guns. They also have hoisted both of the historic

cannon as well as their ponderous carriages, completing the delicate move from the turret to individual conservation tanks without causing any damage to the inscribed surfaces on the 13-foot-long barrels. Since completing that task in late 2004, much of the conservators' efforts have focused on documenting the turret's newly cleared and stabilized interior, which they mapped with the aid of digital laser scanners. In August, they began a new excavation campaign aimed at clearing some of the last bits of sediment and concretion from the walls and ceiling - which now forms the floor of the upside-down cylinder. Using their hands to probe the softer deposits and pneumatic air chisels to peel off the concretions, Krop and Grieve - joined by three East Carolina University students working as NOAA interns - spent four weeks removing and then sifting through the seemingly unpromising accumulations. But it didn't take long for the first discovery to galvanize their attention.

"We were looking at areas that had been gone over before," Krop says. "And then, all of a sudden, there was a button - and then this piece of chalk in the remaining sediment. "It's always great when you find things like this - and this was really unexpected."

Krop's surprise was intensified by the personal nature of some of the objects that emerged.

The buttons, in particular, provide a concrete link to the stormy Dec. 31, 1862 night when the Monitor sank - and many of its crewmen struggled to remove their heavy winter coats before leaping to the deck and attempting to reach the lifeboats. "You can just imagine them standing there inside the turret - tearing things



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off before they jumped into the water," Krop says. "These guys really were scrambling for their lives - and some of them didn't make it." Almost as evocative is a chunk of chalk once used to scribble out messages to the officers and crew on a slate board. According to accounts of the sinking, the captain used one such board to communicate to an escort ship alongside the ironclad, saying that he'd hang a red lantern as a distress signal if the Monitor started to go down.

Other artifacts, including a simple wooden handle, may have great historic value because of their use during the Monitor's pioneering clash with the CSS Virginia - also known as the Merrimack - in the March 1862 Battle of Hampton Roads. "We've found lots of handles," Krop says. "Some are bone and were parts of silverware. Some are iron wrapped in canvas - and they were parts of the gun tools. But the lanyards for the Monitor's guns had a simple handle that looked a lot like this." Even such seemingly nondescript finds as the brass-jacketed bullets can have important documentary value, Johnston says.

In an era when most small firearms still used percussion caps - and required their users to ram Minie balls and paper gunpowder cartridges down the muzzle into the barrel - these self-contained breech-loading projectiles represented unusually advanced technology.

"Breech-loaders were state-of-the-art - so it's just the sort of thing that you'd expect on the Monitor," he says. "They were taking state-of-the-art firearms and putting them on their state-of-the-art vessel. There wasn't much that was old-fashioned about this ship."

"Albert Cashier" Civil War house going home

**By Karen Walters,
Pantagraph.com, September 28,
2006**

PONTIAC -- By mid-October, the house that helped to conceal the true identity of a Civil War soldier will return to its hometown. The Village of Saunemin plans to move the Albert Cashier/Jennie Rodgers house from Pontiac to Saunemin, where it was built for the Civil War veteran who lived as a man, but was born a woman.



The Albert Cashier home deteriorates as it waits in storage on Pontiac city property to get a suitable site for restoration in this 2002 file photo. The house has since been moved indoors to storage.

Once the house has been returned, Saunemin Mayor Mike Stoecklin said the village will start efforts to restore the house to its appearance when it was built in the late 1800s. It is an important part of local history, due in part to the fact that he was a she, Stoecklin said. We are prepared to have the Cashier home returned to Saunemin.

Cashier was the identity taken by Rodgers in 1862 when she enlisted in the Union Army. Rodgers, born in 1844, came to the United States from Ireland and kept her identity a secret until a few years before her death in 1915.

The small home is in disrepair: Much

of the roof and floor are gone, and large metal bands hold it together. Restoring the home could take a few years. Stoecklin hopes the home is ready to open by August 2008. The Pontiac City Council has approved the village's plan to take back the home, but is waiting for a final proposal before giving up possession.

We need to get the house back to where it belongs, said Pontiac Alderman Bill Kallas. To have it any place but Saunemin would be a shame.

The house is stored in a city garage at the street department. The city took possession of the house in 1995 after it had been moved from various locations in Saunemin and Pontiac. In August, the Saunemin hosted several Civil War reenactments that increased interest in the home. The events included talks about Cashier at his grave site in Sunny Slope. The home will be moved to a village-owned lot near the intersection of Center and Maple streets. Stoecklin said that is just 10 to 15 feet from where the house was first located. Stoecklin said the home will be restored within historic guidelines and seek designation as a historical site. Cashier was a member of the 95th Illinois Infantry during the Civil War. After the war, Cashier moved to Saunemin and worked as a laborer. Cashier's employer built the house for him in the 1860s to 1870s. Cashier's gender was discovered after he was in a car accident. He was placed in a mental institution and forced to live as a woman, but drew an army pension. He died in 1915 and was buried wearing his Union Army uniform.



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Battlefield, National Park feels funding shortage

By Angie Mason, Hanover Evening Sun, September 25, 2006

A national parks advocacy group estimates the landmarks' annual federal funding shortfall has grown to \$800 million, and the Gettysburg battlefield is among sites feeling the deficit.

The National Parks Conservation Association last week released an analysis of federal funding for the national park sites, concluding that an annual funding shortfall has grown by about \$200 million since 2001, when the group last studied budget data.

While Congress has increased operating funds by about \$146 million since 2001, the financial boosts haven't been enough to cover fixed costs the parks must pay, such as a mandatory 4.1 percent cost-of-living increase for employees and higher benefits costs, according to the analysis.

"It's not enough of an increase to cover fixed costs, which go up every year regardless," said Cinda Waldbuesser, Pennsylvania program manager for the association.

Gettysburg National Military Park would need about \$1.6 million more to meet its operational costs. It has a \$6 million budget, Waldbuesser said.

As an example of the "real life effects" of the deficit, she said the park doesn't have the money or sufficient staff to restore its 100-year-old cannon carriages or historic houses that were once used as makeshift hospitals for soldiers.

Last year, school groups had to win a lottery in order to get a park-ranger-led tour of the battlefield, "because there aren't enough staff and that's because they don't have enough money," Waldbuesser said.

The nonprofit Gettysburg Foundation exists in part to help solve the park's funding challenges and preserve the park resources, according to information on its Web site. The foundation is raising money for the construction of a new museum and visitors center, among other projects. "We're here to help the parks at Gettysburg in any way we can," said Dru Anne Neil, spokeswoman for the foundation.

Gettysburg National Military Park officials could not be reached for comment Friday.

"Obviously, something needs to be done because the problem's only going to continue to get worse," Waldbuesser said. She said a Centennial Challenge is in the works to improve the national parks by their 100th anniversary in 2016.

"Now moving forward into next year, there needs to be a budget in place in order to make this a successful challenge," she said.

Burglars Hit Donation Box at Andersonville

Sept. 25, 2006--When park staff opened the Prisoner of War Museum early last Friday morning, they discovered that someone had thrown a rock through a large window in the lobby of the museum. The donation box and its contents were found to be missing.

The donation box, which is made of clear Plexiglas and is designed in the shape of the POW Museum, was attached to a wooden pedestal. Visitors to the museum place small monetary donations in the box, which are then used to fund a variety of projects to benefit the visiting public.

The incident is being investigated by the Macon County (Georgia) Sheriff's Department, according to reports

from Joan Stibitz, Lead Park Ranger, and the National Park Service.

Civil War Artist Finally Gets His Due

By RICHARD PYLE, Associated Press, September 30, 2006

NEW YORK - Almost a year ago, a book by William B. Style lifted Civil War artist-historian James Edward Kelly from obscurity. Now, Style is making sure Kelly is never forgotten.

On Sunday, a stone marking Kelly's grave in Old St. Raymond's Cemetery in the Bronx was dedicated - the final chapter in Style's campaign to commemorate the life and work of Kelly, who died in 1933 at age 77.

Style's book, "Generals in Bronze: Interviewing the Commanders of the Civil War," is a collection of postwar conversations Kelly conducted with 40 former Union army officers and other ex-soldiers as they posed for portraits that would be cast into statues and bas-reliefs at Gettysburg, Arlington National Cemetery and other sites in seven states.

The interviews were filled with his subjects' personal and candid recollections about the war - and about one another. "You will not find these in history, for I have not mentioned them before," Ulysses S. Grant told Kelly, according to the book.

"Kelly was the ultimate Civil War buff - he got to do what we all wish we could do," says Style, a local historian in Kearny, N.J., who has written several other books on the war. After "Generals in Bronze" was published, Style received \$8,000 in private donations for the grave marker.

At Old St. Raymond's, Kelly is in interesting company. Other noteworthy tenants include Mary "Typhoid Mary" Mallon, World War I



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chaplain Father Francis Duffy, and jazz singer Billie Holiday.

Under clearing skies Sunday after a rain, Style read a prayer, and his wife and a few others laid white roses on the sculptor's black granite tombstone.

"I almost felt it was my duty to see this through," Style said in a voice edged with emotion. "Better to be forgotten and remembered than to be remembered and forgotten."

The New York-born Kelly was only 10 years old when the war ended in 1865 but already was developing the artistic skills that would enable him to become a successful illustrator and bronze sculptor.

He tried in the early 1930s to publish his memoirs but was turned down by publishers. When Kelly died in 1933 at age 77 without any known relatives to mark his passing, his personal papers, artwork and notes were left to his doctor, whose family later donated it to various institutions.

In 2003, Style discovered 27 boxes of the material at the New-York Historical Society, and realized its value as a unique and largely unknown archive, spanning the period from the war's first shots at Fort Sumter in 1861 to Robert E. Lee's surrender at Appomattox in 1865, and the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln five days later.

"For his subjects, it wasn't like talking to Kelly the historian," Style said in an interview. "It was like talking to Kelly the barber."

Visiting Kelly-made monuments during research on the book, Style wondered what the artist's own grave looked like. Tracking it down in the Bronx cemetery, he was stunned to find there was no marker on the plot where Kelly, his wife and several of her relatives are buried.

"Here was someone who had spent his life perpetuating the heroic deeds of others and there was no memorial to his own life and work," Style said. The roughly \$8,000 in contributions will be enough to pay for perpetual care and a stone large enough to hold all the names, Style said. The black granite marker also has Kelly's carved image and the words, "A Sculptor of American History."

Family: Man spilled oil on Gettysburg battlefield by accident

Associated Press, September 30, 2006

GETTYSBURG, Pa. - A man accused of dumping used motor oil on part of a historic Civil War battlefield did so by accident and later helped pay to clean it up, his family said.

Daniel A. Bowers, 31, of Gettysburg, faces two misdemeanor charges for transporting oil without a permit and dumping 20 to 40 gallons on part of East Cavalry Field in Gettysburg on May 28, according to court documents.

The barrels fell over and spilled in the back of a truck after Bowers made too sharp of a turn, according to his mother, Marilyn Bowers. He was trying to clean up the mess when Gettysburg National Military Park rangers arrived, she said.

Wiatt Bowers said his brother paid a \$400 fine to the National Park Service and a \$125 cleanup fee to a local fire company, which responded that day.

"My understanding was it was a mistake, an accident," Wiatt Bowers said of the spill.

Daniel Bowers declined comment. Bowers initially told a ranger that the leaking drum contained an oil-and-water mixture that his boss at a paving company had told him to take to a recycling center, according to an

affidavit. He later told investigators the material, 35 to 40 gallons of waste oil, came from a friend's uncle who was going out of business, according to court records.

Bowers said he was transporting the material through the park when he stopped to read, then got out to smoke a cigarette when he noticed a drum was leaking.

If convicted, each offense could carry a maximum sentence of a year in prison and a \$25,000 fine.

The scene of the alleged dumping was the site of a cavalry engagement between Union and Confederate troops on July 3, 1863. The three-day battle of Gettysburg ended in a decisive Union victory and left more than 51,000 men killed, wounded, missing or captured.

Hagerstown Civil War Roundtable celebrates 50th anniversary

By CANDICE BOSLEY, Hagerstown Herald-Mail, September 18, 2006

In a letter written to his wife the day after the battle at Antietam, volunteer Union soldier and 37-year-old shoemaker John W. Brendel briefly described the fight and the horrors he had seen.

In that letter, which had several misspellings and which Brendel appeared to dictate to someone else to write, he said:

"We had the biggest fight yesterday that has ever bin faught. The Battle line was about 7 miles long. Our Division opened the fight. I can't tell the number killed on either side."

He added later, "We was laying down and a shell struck left hand man and knoced the sid of his head off. It allmost raised me of the ground. Well Ann this is Rebel paper. My paper is on blue (South) Mountain."



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That letter is a favorite of Justin Mayhue, president of the Hagerstown Civil War Roundtable, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

Created in 1956, the Roundtable meets once a month for eight months a year, and makes a point of emphasizing the everyday people, such as Brendel, who made sacrifices during the Civil War.

It's not a group of stuffy academics sitting around a table and discussing highbrow topics, Mayhue said.

"This isn't just for intellectual Civil War enthusiasts. This is for everybody that has an interest in the Civil War," Mayhue said. "In other words, we don't talk over your heads. If you just have a general interest in the Civil War, you're welcome."

Membership in the organization is open to anyone 14 years old and older. Dues include a one-time \$10 fee and an annual fee of \$20. A subscription to the group's newsletter, *The Bugle Call*, is included with the membership.

Most meetings, held at the Four Points Sheraton on Dual Highway in Hagerstown, are preceded by a catered dinner.

The Roundtable's purpose is to promote and stimulate interest in all aspects of the Civil War era, Mayhue said.

Several of the group's members or speakers have included authors, including John Schildt, Joe Harsh, Dennis Frye and Roger Keller.

The Roundtable has about 100 members, and typically 40 to 50 show up for meetings, which are held from September to May.

Mayhue, a Hagerstown firefighter, said his interest in the Civil War was piqued when his father took him to several battlefields, including

Antietam, Gettysburg, Pa., and Shiloh, Tenn.

That interest deepened when Mayhue learned during a genealogy search that some of his ancestors fought for the Union in the war. One of those ancestors was a great-great-grandfather who was captured and held as a prisoner of war at Harpers Ferry, W.Va.

During local filming of the movie "Gods and Generals," Mayhue was part of a "core company" of extras who portrayed both Union and Confederate soldiers. He said he can be seen in several scenes of the film.

After a friend who was aware of Mayhue's interest in the Civil War presented him with Brendel's 144 letters, Mayhue said he read them with interest, and plans to compile them into a book.

Brendel, a member of the 11th Pennsylvania volunteer infantry unit, was from West Newton, Pa., and fought in several major battles.

As well as hosting speakers, the Roundtable awards an annual scholarship to a student interested in history, has a foundation with a goal of awarding additional scholarships and presents an award to an individual who has excelled in preserving local Civil War history.

It makes donations earmarked for Civil War land preservation, and members go on a bus trip to a Civil War site about once a year, Mayhue said.

History Channel filming in Hagerstown area

Hagerstown Herald-Mail, September 26, 2006

The Hagerstown-Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau has announced that a History Channel television network production company is filming in Hagerstown and Washington County.

According to the CVB's Tom Riford, "We have been working on this project for a number of months. The CVB has helped with lodging needs, filming site locations, permit processing and a multitude of other details."

Riford said the television movie will be a Civil War episode scheduled to air sometime in February.

Various locations around the county are being utilized, including in Hagerstown and Boonsboro. The crew also will be visiting Fort Frederick and other sites.

"The Washington County Historical Society has been great to work with, and the City of Hagerstown and the Town of Boonsboro also have been very helpful," Riford said.

The CVB reported that filming the History Channel episode will take only a couple of weeks.

"This production creates a positive local economic impact. More and more, Washington County is known for welcoming movie and television productions," Riford said.

History Channel network executives also will be visiting various sites around the county during the next few weeks, Riford said.

When available, more details about this History Channel production will be forthcoming, including the episode's title and schedule. Washington County has been the location for a number of television and movie projects during the past two years - with a more proactive marketing approach to production companies.

There have been seven network television episodes filmed here since 2004, and three movie projects (including two IMAX-style movies, one of which was "Fields of Freedom," filmed in 2005).



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Hunterstown, Fairfield designated part of Gettysburg Battle

By Meg Brenhardt, Hanover Evening Sun, September 28, 2006

The National Park Service announced Tuesday it intends to include Hunterstown and Fairfield in an updated field study of the Gettysburg Battlefield.

Both towns were the site of cavalry battles during the Battle of Gettysburg – Hunterstown on July 2nd and Fairfield on July 3rd.

But their inclusion in the field study by the Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program does not mean they are now part of the official Gettysburg National Military Park.

"In this program, the community drives the efforts. It's not a top down thing," said Katie Lawhon, the spokeswoman for the park. "This does not mean the National Park Service intends to expand the park boundary to include Fairfield and Hunterstown."

In a news release from the American Battlefield Protection Program, it said the two sites "were the scenes of fierce cavalry fighting and were directly related to the battle."

The release states the primary purpose of the update is to help planning the preservation of Civil War battlefields, but also makes clear that the program does not have the authority to expand park boundaries.

And that means the new inclusion of the battlefield won't affect currently planned and approved development like the 2,000-home Gettysburg Commons, Lawhon said. Some of the houses will actually be placed on the Hunterstown battlefield, an outcome preservationists would like to avoid.

Lawhon said the National Park Service would need an act of Congress and funding before acquiring any new land or expanding the boundaries of the park.

But local preservationists hope an act of Congress will follow, now that a federal government study has legitimized claims the battles were integral in the battle.

"With the support there is in Congress to preserve these battlefield sites, it's going to happen," said Hunterstown preservationist Roger Harding. "I think a lot of people just don't want to believe it."

Instead of just taking land, the program provides funding to help communities implement planning policies to protect the battleground if they decide to, she said.

And that funding and designation as part of the Gettysburg Battlefield will open doors to more grant money and matching funds, Harding said.

He's the leader of Friends of Hunterstown, a group that hopes to preserve Hunterstown's history.

Hunterstown, four miles north of Gettysburg, has been called the "north cavalry field," following the pattern of the east and south cavalry fields. Some historians have argued the seemingly separate cavalry actions from Hanover to Fairfield are unified elements, part of the big picture of the Battle of Gettysburg.

Groundbreaking on the first phase of Gettysburg Commons, near Routes 15 and 394, is anticipated for later this year, but it will be at least four or five years before the Hunterstown battle area is developed, developer Rick Klein has said.

Klein has already agreed to extra screening in certain critical areas and to install a wayside exhibit at the Confederate position near the Gilbert

farm, but preservationists hope for further concessions.

They also hope the Civil War Preservation Trust will follow the lead of the American Battlefield Protection Program and consider Fairfield and Hunterstown as part of Gettysburg, a top priority for the trust's preservation efforts.

"I think it's very good for the preservation community who has been concerned about sites at Fairfield and Hunterstown because now the American Battlefield Protection Program is now available to help them with planning, interpreting and protecting of the sites," Lawhon said.

Vermont Brigade Wilderness Monument dedicated

By Erin Kelly, Burlington (VT) Free Press, September 17, 2006

WASHINGTON -- More than 140 years ago, a brigade of 2,800 Vermonters fought off the Confederate Army in the dense forest of northern Virginia in a bloody struggle to prevent the rebels from capturing key ground and dividing the Union Army.

When the Battle of the Wilderness was over, nearly half of the Vermont Brigade were dead, wounded or missing.

The first day of that two-day battle in May of 1864 was the single worst day of casualties for the Green Mountain Boys in the entire Civil War. But they won their struggle to beat back the Army of Northern Virginia, allowing Gen. Ulysses Grant to head south in his quest to destroy the Confederate Army.

The memory of those soldiers was honored Saturday with a granite monument made in the quarries of Barre, Vt. The monument was



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unveiled on the edge of the woods in the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park, about an hour and half outside of Washington, D.C. "Standing here, with the woods largely unchanged, it is easy to imagine the thick underbrush and dense trees, the closeness of the two armies, the heat and heavy smoke conditions that faced the Vermont Brigade," Sen. Jim Jeffords, I-Vt., said in prepared remarks at the unveiling. "This magnificent monument will be a lasting tribute to the Vermont Brigade and its personal sacrifices for many generations to come."

The 17-ton granite monument, made by Rock of Ages in Barre, is 8 feet long and 2 feet high. Sculptor Walt Celley chiseled the shape of Vermont's landmark Camels Hump on top of the monument, which also is engraved with the words "The Vermont Brigade" and a brief description of the battle.

Jeffords, a history buff, pushed for five years to win approval for the monument and secure \$200,000 for the National Park Service to use to create trails, signs, parking and access to the monument. The Vermont Legislature provided \$40,000 for the monument's construction.

More than 5,200 Vermonters died fighting for the Union in the Civil War. For Vermont, May 5, 1864, was the bloodiest day in the state's history, said John Hennessy, chief historian of the national military park where the monument has been erected. Soldiers had to fight for hours in dense woods where they could barely see where they were shooting, he said.

"The losses that the Vermont Brigade suffered were just staggering," Hennessy said. "That one brigade suffered nearly 10 percent of the federal army's total casualties. It reverberated in the living room

parlors across Vermont in a huge, huge way. If you were to canvass the ghosts of the Army of the Potomac as to the horrors they endured, the Battle of the Wilderness would be very high on everybody's list."

